

Lore Alford

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Department of Iowa, for as editor, senator, and lieutenant-governor, he earnestly supported the work from its commencement.

GEORGE S. SMITH was born in Canton, Mass., July 13, 1826; he died at Fort Payne, Ala., Feb. 2, 1900. During his early boyhood his parents removed to North Charlestown, N. H., settling on a rocky hillside farm, where George grew to manhood. He attended the winter schools in his district and two terms at an academy in an adjoining town. After some considerable experience as a merchant's clerk at North Charlestown, he came west and settled in Rockton, Ill. Here he embarked in merchandising and was also a partner in a boot and shoe manufacturing business in Dubuque, Iowa. This enterprise, however, did not prove successful and was discontinued. He then went to Webster City, Iowa, where he engaged in the land business with Kendall Young, L. L. Treat, and his brother, Cyrus Smith. One of their enterprises was the laying out of the town of Irvington, on a most beautiful site a few miles south of Algona, about the year 1857. They made considerable improvements at this point, but the town of Algona had acquired such a start that the Irvington enterprise had to be abandoned. After this, Mr. Smith became a traveling man for a wholesale house in Chicago, and was for a time very successful. During the ten years he was so employed he made investments in real estate in Chicago and Colorado, the most of which proved highly remunerative. He also became a large land owner in the vicinity of Renwick, Humboldt county, Iowa. After this business career, he returned to his old home in New Hampshire where he was elected one of the selectmen, and also representative and senator in the state legislature. In 1896 he returned to Webster City where he remained about two years. He then removed to Fort Payne, Ala., where he resided up to the date of his death. He was a prominent and honored pioneer resident of Webster City, taking an active part in local affairs. A good and true man in every relation in life, he deserves to be remembered among the early settlers of northwestern Iowa.

HENRIETTA SICARTAR, familiarly known as "Aunt Hetty Coleman," died at Keokuk, Iowa, March 12, 1900. She was born some eighty years ago, in a camp of the Stockbridge Indians, at Stockbridge, Conn. Her father was of mixed French and Indian blood and her mother a squaw. When she was but three years old her mother was killed by accident, and Henrietta was taken into the family of Mr. and Mrs. Coleman, who then resided at Hartford. The Colemans removed to this State in 1863 and settled at Montrose, Lee county. After the death of her foster-mother, Mrs. Coleman, several years later, Henrietta resided at Keokuk, where she became well and favorably known. *The Gate City* of March 15 paid a fine tribute to the aged Indian woman. She was bright and intelligent, an omnivorous reader, an interesting person to meet, though her facilities for obtaining an education had been very limited. She always possessed Indian traits—never forgetting a favor and always resentful of ill-treatment. She excelled in all home industries, such as cooking, sewing and other housewifely work. Her memory of early times in Iowa was bright and clear to the end of her days. She was well acquainted with Black Hawk and other noted Indians, and loved the wild forest life of her people notwithstanding she had spent her days among the whites. She joined the Presbyterians in early life and remained a member of that church down to her death. In her old age and reduced circumstances Mrs. A. W. Kilbourne kindly looked after her welfare.

LOBE ALFORD was born at Hope, Maine, March 8, 1838; he died at Waterloo, Iowa, March 30, 1900. He was prepared for college at Kent's Hill Seminary, and later entered Union College at Schenectady. In May, 1861,

he enlisted as a private in the Sixteenth New York Infantry Volunteers. The regiment went at once to the front and Mr. Alford bore his part in the Battle of Bull Run. He served in various capacities—was under Butler at New Orleans—but in June, 1862, was commissioned as first lieutenant of Co. H, Eighth Maine Infantry. He participated in the capture of Jacksonville, Florida, in February, 1863. During the winter of 1863-4 he acted as judge advocate at Beaufort and Hilton Head. In March, 1864, he was appointed upon the staff of Gen. Vodges, of the Tenth Army Corps. He afterwards joined the Army of the James and was present at the battle of Drury's Bluff, the siege of Petersburg, the capture of Fort Harrison, and various other affairs of that year. His regiment was mustered out October 14, 1864, when his military service ended. He came to Iowa in 1866, settled in Waterloo, where he began the practice of the law, and soon drifted into politics. He was elected to the Iowa house of representatives in 1877 and re-elected two years later, thus serving in the seventeenth and eighteenth general assemblies. In his last session he was chosen speaker of the house. He was an excellent presiding officer, achieving a wide and favorable reputation throughout the State.

ABRAM V. STOUT was born in Greene county, Illinois, November 29, 1841; he died at his home in Beaver township, Grundy county, Iowa, March 28, 1900. He removed to this State in 1869 and settled on the farm where he resided until his death. Mr. Stout had been known for many years as one of the prominent farmers of Iowa—a leader in the Grange, the Farmer's Alliance and the State Agricultural Society. He was elected to the house of representatives in the State legislature in 1879, and re-elected in 1881. He is well remembered as one of the most active and useful representatives during the four years of his service. He was a delegate in several of the National Farmers' Congresses, and at one session the Iowa vice president of that body. Mr. Stout served six years as trustee of the Iowa Agricultural College, of which board he was a progressive and influential member. He was a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal church, especially distinguished by his efforts to establish and maintain religious worship—everywhere active, useful and exemplary. The papers of his county and throughout the State paid tributes of sincere respect to his memory, as also did the Iowa house of representatives.

ORLANDO B. AYRES was born at Willoughby, Ohio, July 26, 1836; he died at San Diego, Cal., March 27, 1900, where he had been stopping in the hope of recovering his health. He was educated at Knox College and studied law at Galesburg. Admitted to practice at Galesburg in 1854, he came to Iowa the following year, settling at Knoxville. He became a law partner of Gov. W. M. Stone, remaining with him until the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion. At the close of the war the partnership was resumed and continued until Col. Stone was elected governor. At one time Maj. H. C. Curtis of Atlantic was a member of the firm. Judge Ayres retired from this business connection upon his election as Judge of the Fifth District in 1886. He served in this position four years. At the expiration of this service he removed to Des Moines to take the presidency of the State Insurance company. About five years ago he resigned and formed a law partnership with his son W. S. Ayres and D. C. Woodin. Last summer his health began to fail, doubtless leading to a slight stroke of paralysis from which he gradually failed until the end came. He was long prominent and widely known in politics and business affairs.

A. L. ORMSBY was born at Deerfield, Michigan, June 5, 1847; he died at Okoboji, Iowa, May 18, 1900. He entered the Union army at the age of 16 and served to the end of the war. Among the events of his army life

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